

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

ANGOLA

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The highlight of the mineral industry in Angola for 1999 was the continued success of offshore deep-water petroleum exploration programs. Unaffected by the ongoing civil war, the major oil-production-sharing consortiums, which were led by Chevron Corp., Exxon Mobil Angola Ltd., Total Fina Group, and BP Amoco PLC, reported eight significant new deep-water oil discoveries during the year. Added to the nine fields discovered in 1998 and the four other major discoveries since 1996, these new fields have the potential to double Angolan oil production to 1.3 million barrels per day by 2002.

Angola had a population of about 10 million in a 1,246,700-square-kilometer area, which includes Cabinda, a 100-kilometer (km)-wide and 150-km-long coastal strip located between the Republic of the Congo [Congo (Brazzaville)] and the Democratic Republic of the Congo [Congo (Kinshasa)]. Cabinda was the source of about 70% of Angola's oil production. The \$4.5 billion in petroleum exports, which was a 50% increase compared with that of 1998, accounted for 90% of all exports and for more than 80% of Government revenues. Angola's gross domestic product (GDP) was estimated to be \$11.6 billion by yearend 1999. Petroleum and related services accounted for about 45% of the GDP (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, 2000, *World factbook—Angola*, accessed February 26, 2001, at URL <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

[geos/ao.html](http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ao.html)).

The renewed outbreak of civil war in 1999 had a direct impact on the diamond mining areas by forcing the closure or suspension of several operations and putting a hold on any future investment plans for most of the remaining operations. Despite the disincentives to new investment, exports of diamonds by Endiama-licensed dealers increased by 48%, compared with that of 1998, to 4.1 million carats. This suggests a reduced level of smuggling and more Government control over the diamond mining areas. Most exploration for other commodities, such as nickel, platinum, and industrial minerals, and efforts to reestablish iron ore mining in the country were similarly affected.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Angola, see the 1998 *Minerals Yearbook*, volume III, *Mineral Industries of Africa and the Middle East*.

Major Source of Information

Ministry of Geology and Mines
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TABLE 1
ANGOLA: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/

Commodity		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Cement, hydraulic	thousand metric tons	200 1/	270	301 2/	350 2/	350 2/
Diamond 3/ 4/	thousand carats	2,900	2,500 2/	1,234 2/	2,764 2/	4,096 2/
Gas, natural:						
Gross 5/	million cubic meters	5,210 2/	5,804	5,835	5,835	5,835
Dry	do.	560	566	580	580	580
Granite	thousand cubic meters	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Marble	do.	100	100	100	100	100
Petroleum:						
Crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	232,800 2/	259,150 2/	262,800 2/	268,275 2/	279,000
Refinery products 6/	do.	10,585 2/	11,000	11,700	12,000	12,000
Salt	metric tons	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Includes data available through February 2001.

2/ Reported figure.

3/ Did not include smuggled production.

4/ Production was approximately 90% gem and 10% industrial grade.

5/ Angola has no natural gas distribution system. Most gas was vented and flared.

6/ Included asphalt and bitumen.